

~~TOP SECRET~~ [REDACTED]Situation in Iraq

The UAR is building up pro-Nasir Iraqi Vice Premier Arif as a possible replacement for the more moderate nationalist Prime Minister Qasim, [REDACTED]. Although he has professed a desire for friendly relations with the United States, Arif recently completed a demagogic speech-making tour of the country in which he made numerous anti-Western statements and suggested that the West was implicated in the recent oil fire in Baghdad. His purpose may have been a bid for popular support for an army-directed regime. On 12 August Arif repeated these charges and appealed to Iraqis to ignore Western "poisonous propaganda."

Sympathetic to Baathist political teachings, Arif may be more inclined than Qasim to collaborate with Egypt and may have impressed Egyptian leaders with his forcefulness and pro-Nasir sympathies. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] It is doubtful that the Egyptians are contemplating the immediate ouster of Qasim, more probably they are attempting to ensure themselves against the possibility that Qasim will follow a strong Iraqi nationalist line rather than a predominantly pan-Arab, pro-Nasir one. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Pressure on Iraqi political leaders to relinquish their recently acquired freedom will not be gracefully accepted. These individuals, who were forced to carry on clandestinely under the Nuri regime, will probably attempt to continue their party activities [REDACTED]

~~TOP SECRET~~ [REDACTED]

~~TOP SECRET~~ [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

The Baath, after its unsuccessful attempt to gain control of the Syrian political apparatus following union with Egypt, has viewed the Iraqi coup as an opportunity to build up a counterweight in Iraq which might in turn permit it to reassert its leadership in Syria. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

The regime has apparently lost control, at least temporarily, over a portion of southern Iraq lying along the Iranian border where Shia Moslem tribal supporters of the monarchy have rebelled, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] The tribal sheiks, who were the bulwark of the royal regime, are faced with losing their authority under the new order. Their rebellion may have been encouraged by Iran. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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14 August 1958

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